

# NEWS RELEASE



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Will Ackerman -- Public Affairs Officer  
VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System  
4101 Woolworth Avenue (00P)  
Omaha, NE 68105  
Office: (402) 995-4719  
Cell: (402) 332-6780  
E-mail: William.Ackerman@va.gov  
Twitter: <http://twitter.com/VANWIHCS>  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/NebrasaklowaVA](http://www.facebook.com/NebrasaklowaVA)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

June 21, 2011

## **VA to hold outreach event at Holt County Courthouse Annex Outreach initiative provides info, VA counseling to rural-area Vets**

**OMAHA, Neb.** — An outreach initiative to provide rural-area veterans information and counseling about Department of Veterans Affairs benefits and services takes place July 22 and 23 at the Holt County Courthouse Annex, 128 N. 6<sup>th</sup> Street, O'Neill, Neb.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs is partnering with the Nebraska Department of Veterans Affairs, veteran service agencies, county veteran service officers and military transition assistance advisors to bring information and services at a Veterans of the Armed Forces Open House.

Veterans and their family members with questions about benefits are encouraged to visit the open house between noon to 7 p.m. July 22 or from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. July 23.

Representatives from the following agencies will be available to provide veterans assistance and information: VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System, Veterans Benefit Administration Regional Office, Vet Centers, Nebraska Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Nebraska National Guard Transition Assistance Advisor. Community agencies that provide veteran services will also be available.

Veterans who are not currently enrolled for VA benefits are encouraged to bring their DD Form 214, "Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty," to the open house to assist the agency counselors assess individual eligibility for VA benefits. VA counselors will assist veterans to complete eligibility and enrollment applications.

The goal is to increase awareness about VA and other benefits and services available to veterans, and to assist with applying for these benefits.

For additional information about the event, contact Cindy Niemack-Brown at (308) 382-3660, extension 92287; or Arnold Hall at (402) 336-1200.

The open house is targeted toward veterans who live in the following counties: Antelope, Blaine, Boyd, Boone, Brown, Cedar, Custer, Garfield, Greeley, Holt, Keya Paha, Knox, Loup, Madison, Pierce, Rock, Stanton, Valley, Wayne and Wheeler, Nebraska; and Aurora, Bon Homme, Brule, Charles Mix, Davison, Douglas, Gregory, Hutchinson, Lyman, Tripp, Yankton Sioux Tribal, South Dakota.

###